

REMARKS

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview conducted on October 26, 2006, in which the Examiner expressed the position of the Patent Office regarding this application and the prior Office Actions. An understanding was reached during the interview regarding many of the issues surrounding this application. The present response addresses these issues, and accordingly, the present response is believed to constitute a complete written statement of the reasons presented in the interview as warranting favorable action, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.133.

The Patent Office has indicated that claims 101-104 are objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Patent Office has also rejected claims 51-62 and 92-100 for the reasons asserted in the prior Office Action. Applicants have rewritten independent claims 51, 52, 53, and 92 to include the limitations of allowable claims 101-104, and have accordingly cancelled claims 101-104. It is thus believed that independent claims 51, 52, 53, and 92, as amended, are now allowable, as well as the dependent claims that depend therefrom. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims similar or identical to the rejected claims as pending prior to cancellation or amendment herein in one or more applications claiming priority to the instant application. Applicants also do not concede the merits of the rejections set forth in the Office Action.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after the foregoing remarks, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated: 11/21, 2006
X11/22/2006

Respectfully submitted,

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